

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

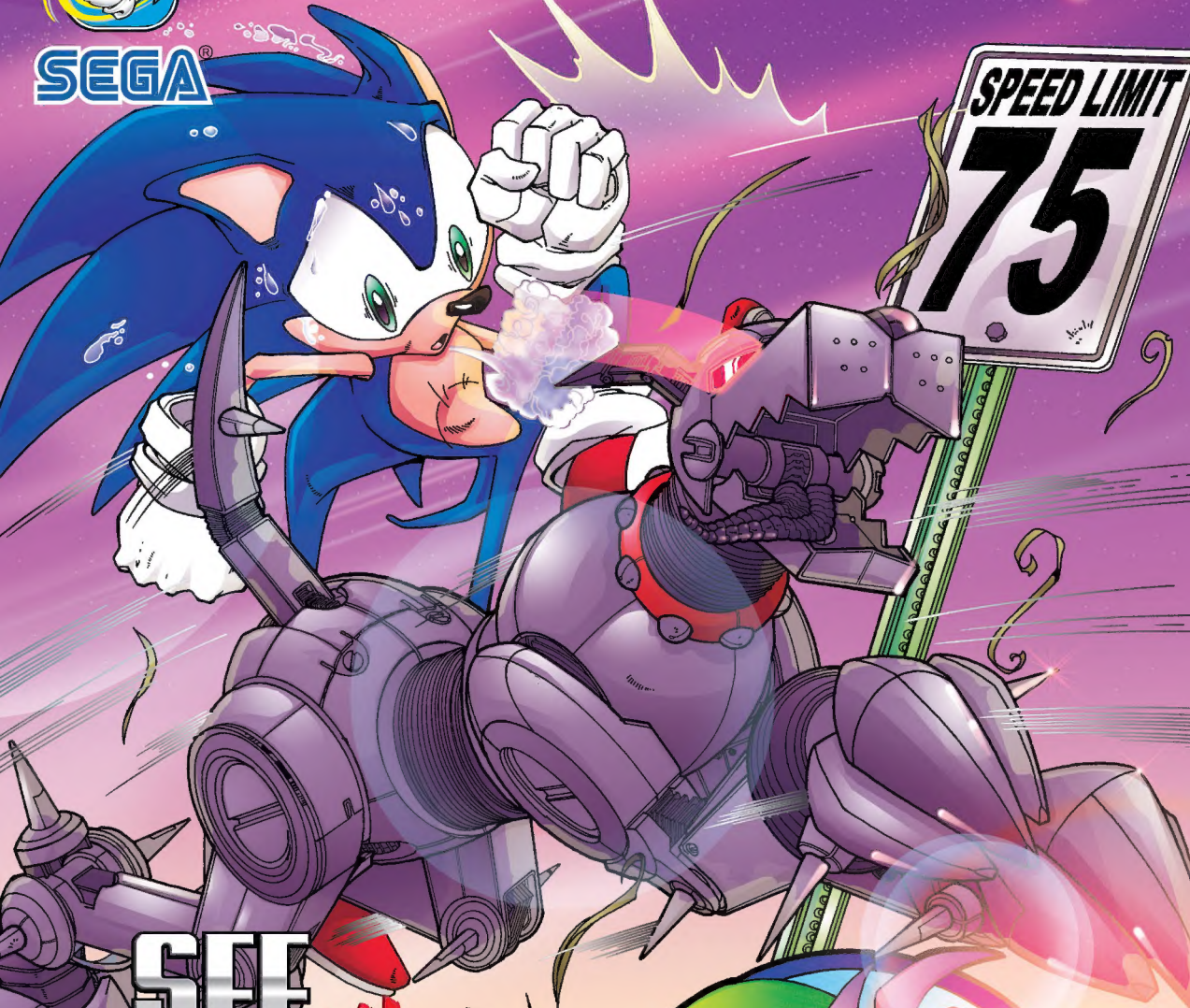
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



SEGA®



SEE
MUTTSKI
RUN

ALSO
IN THIS
ISSUE:

KNUCKLES FACES A NEW CHALLENGE!



SONIC
THE
HEDGEHOG

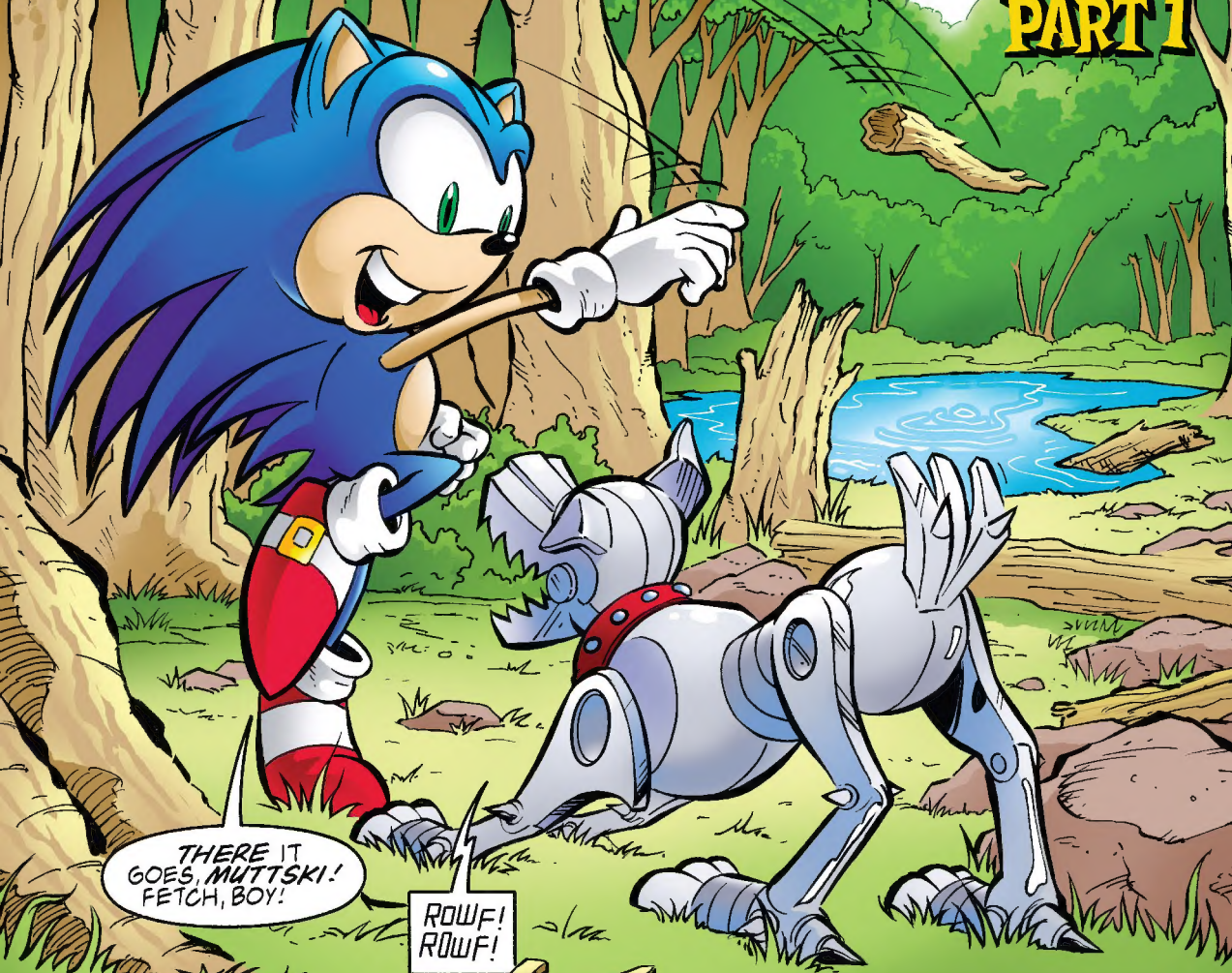


SONIC MEANIE IN A BOTTLE

THE HEDGEHOG

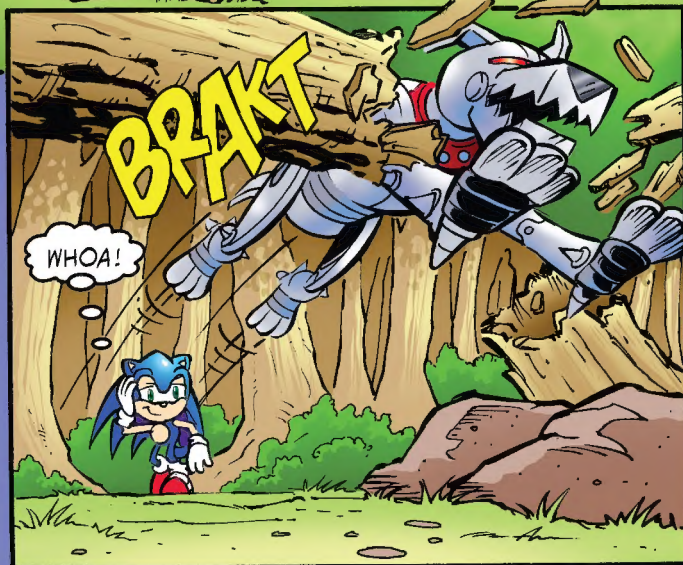
BENNY LEE - WRITER ART MAWHINNEY - PENCILER PAM EKLUND - INKER
JEFF POWELL - LETTERER JASON JENSEN - COLORISTS J.F. GABRIE - EDITOR
VICTOR GORELICK - MANAGING EDITOR RICHARD GOLDWATER - EDITOR IN CHIEF

PART 1



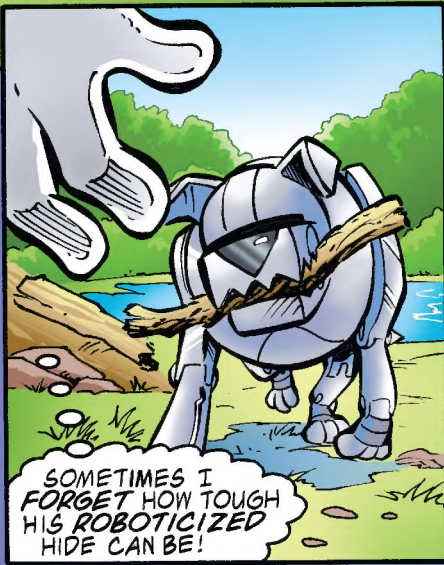
THERE IT GOES, MUTTSKI!
FETCH, BOY!

ROWF!
ROWF!



BRAKT

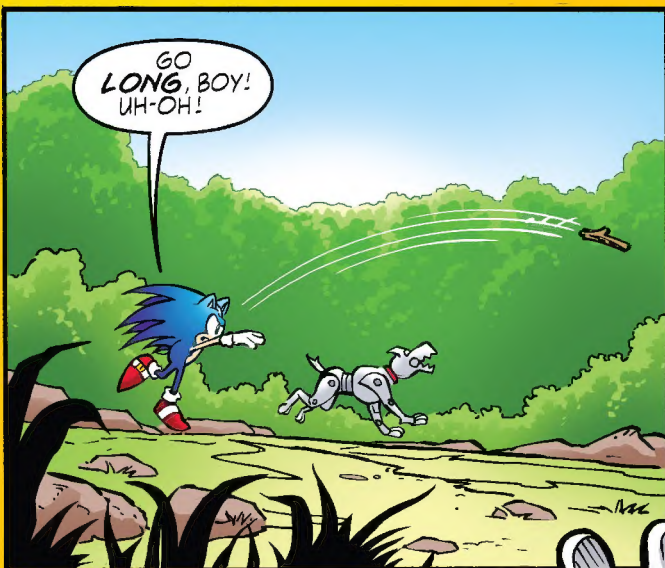
WHOA!



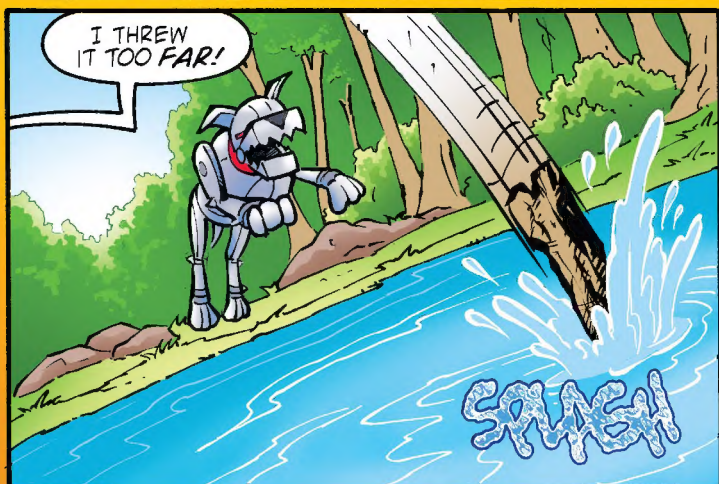
SOMETIMES I FORGET HOW TOUGH HIS ROBOTICIZED HIDE CAN BE!



GOOOOD MUTTSKI!



GO LONG, BOY!
UH-OH!

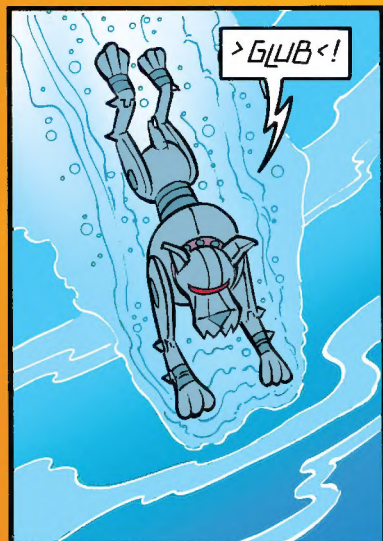


I THREW IT TOO FAR!

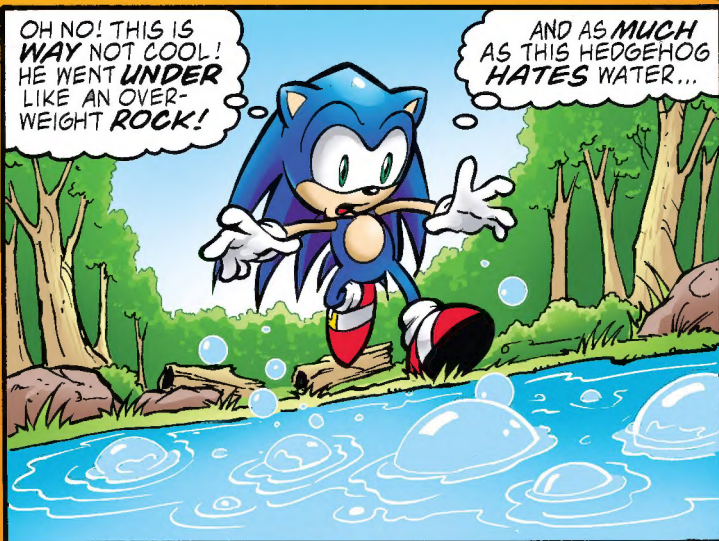
SPLASH!



MUTTSKI!
WAIT!



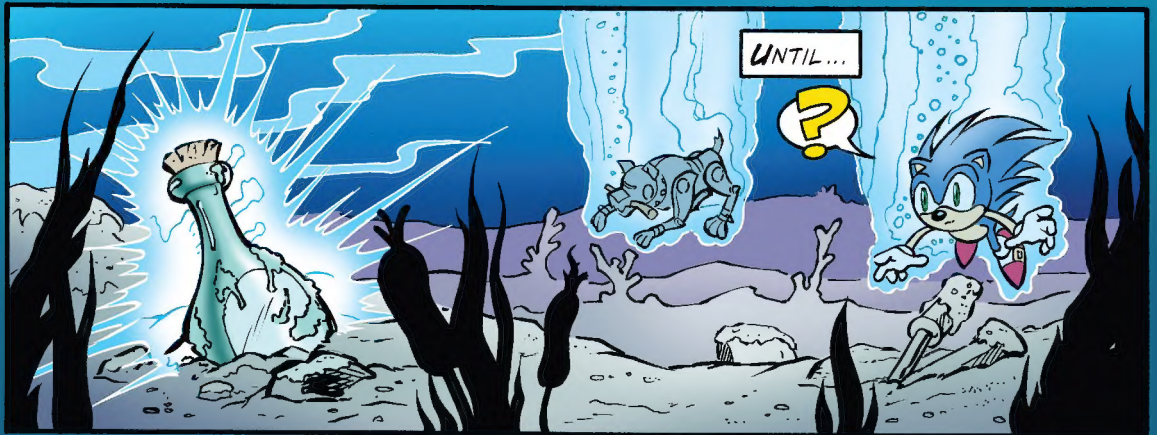
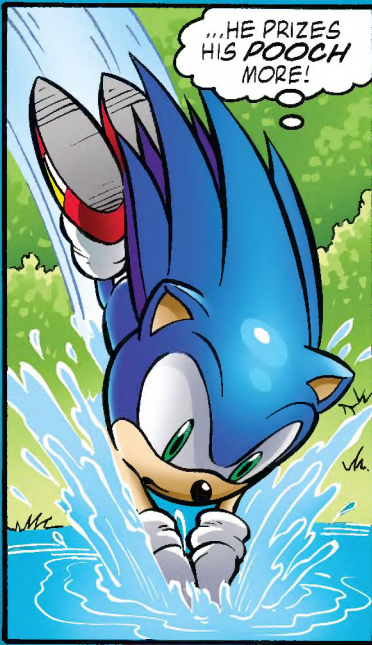
>GLUB<!



OH NO! THIS IS WAY NOT COOL!
HE WENT UNDER LIKE AN OVER-WEIGHT ROCK!

AND AS MUCH AS THIS HEDGEHOG HATES WATER...

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (issn:10705090), No. 115, Dec., 2002. Published every 4 weeks, twice in April by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberkleit, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies \$1.99 in the U.S.; \$2.39 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. \$25.87 for 13 issues; \$31.07 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. © SEGA CORPORATION 2002. All Rights Reserved. SEGA, DREAMCAST, the Dreamcast logo, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters are trademarks or registered trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION or its affiliates. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America Dreamcast, Inc., P.O. Box 7639, San Francisco, CA 94120-7639. www.sega.com Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER, send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada



SONIC

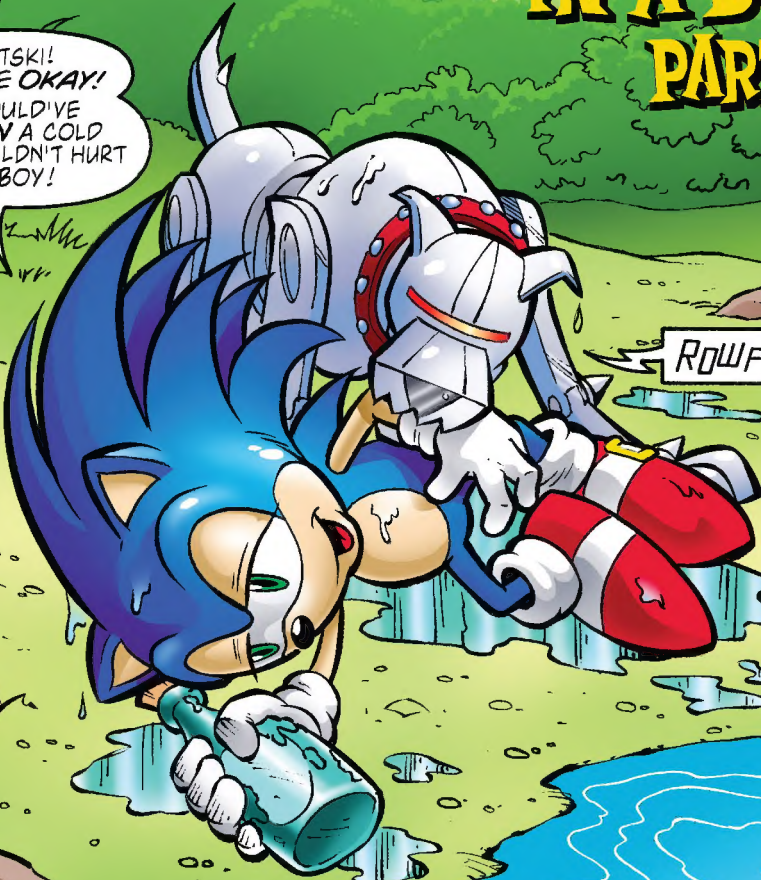
THE HEDGEHOG
HAS BEEN **SAVED** FROM
A WATERY GRAVE!

BUT
HOW?

MEANIE IN A BOTTLE PART 2

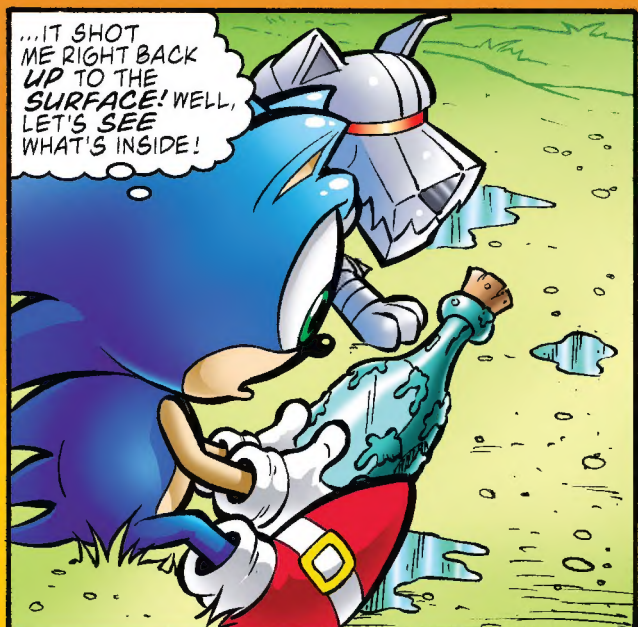
MUTTSKI!
YOU'RE **OKAY!**
I SHOULD'VE
KNOWN A COLD
DIP WOULDN'T HURT
YOU, BOY!

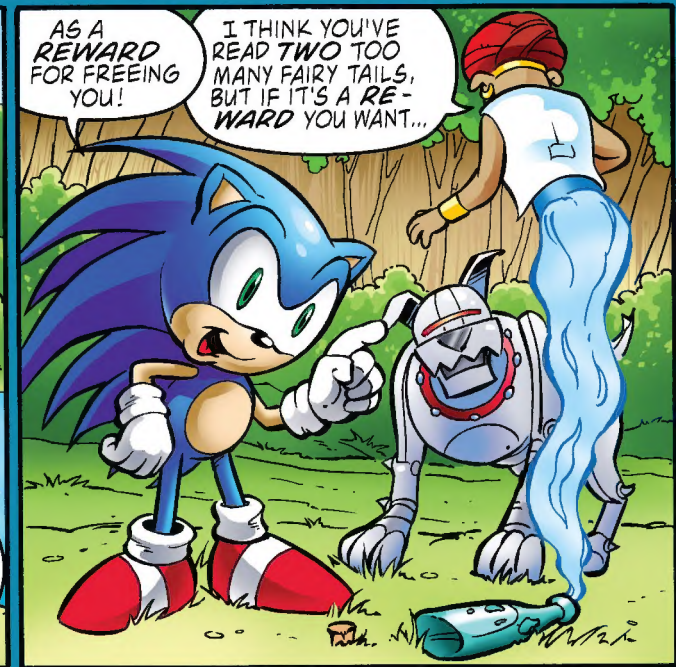
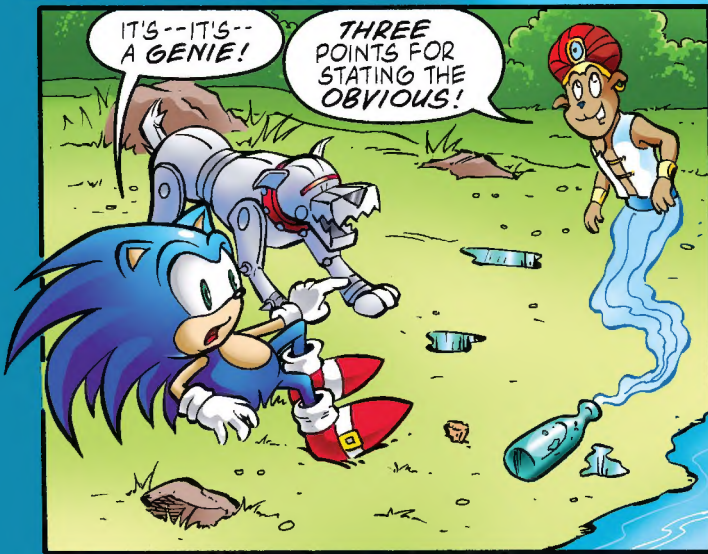
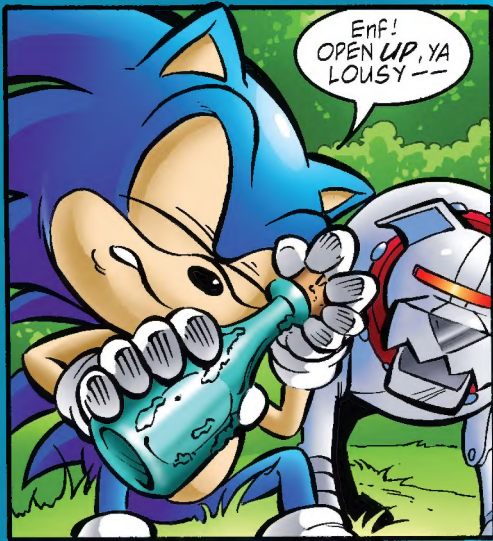
ROWF!

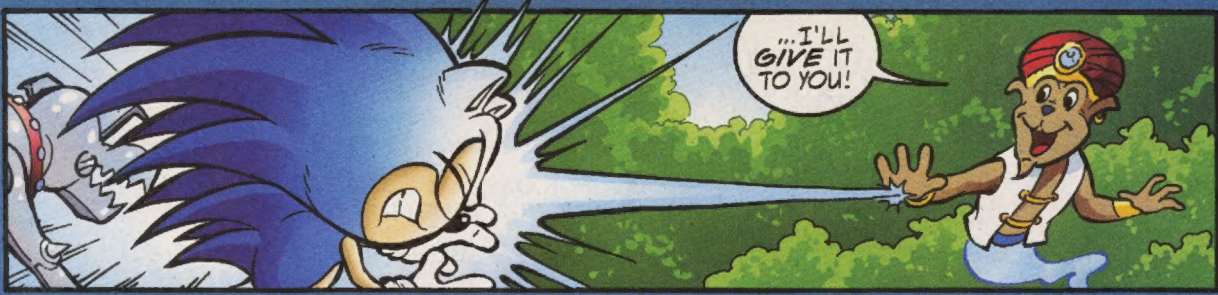


WEIRD BOTTLE.
AS SOON AS I FREED
IT FROM THE BOTTOM
OF THE LAKE...

...IT SHOT
ME RIGHT BACK
UP TO THE
SURFACE! WELL,
LET'S SEE
WHAT'S INSIDE!





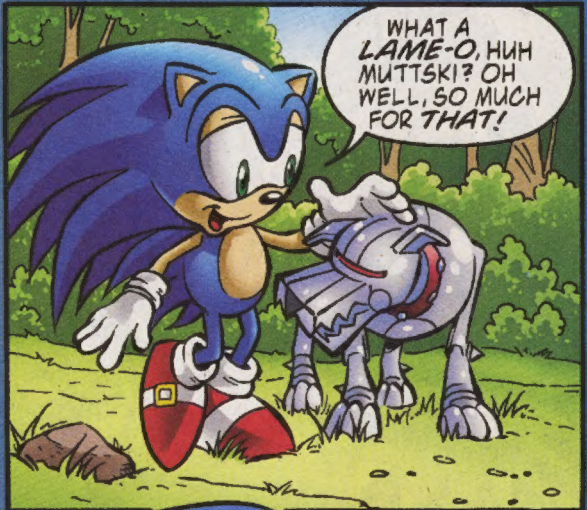


...I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU!

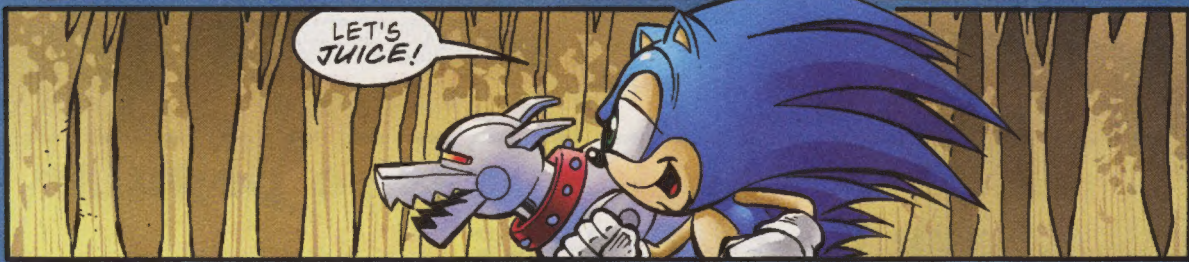


GLAD THAT'S OVER!

HUH? BUT, I DIDN'T EVEN MAKE A WISH!



WHAT A LAME-O, HUH MUTTSKI? OH WELL, SO MUCH FOR THAT!

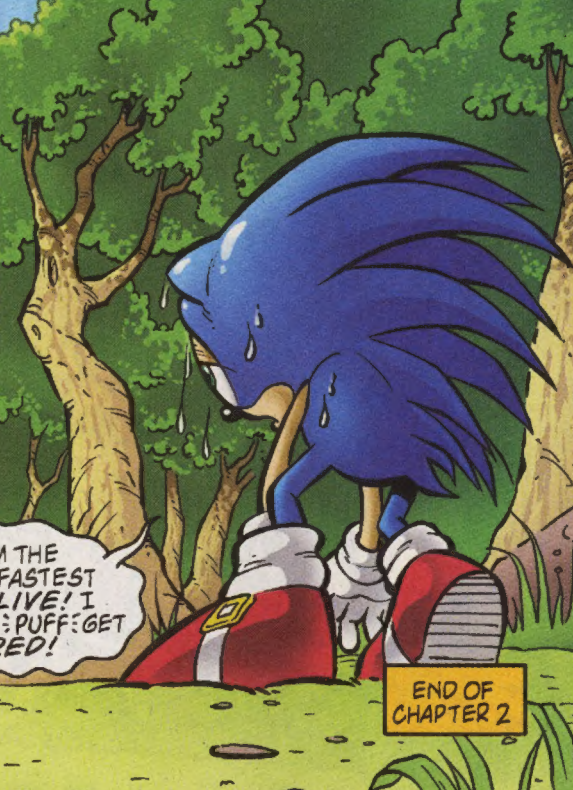


LET'S JUICE!



LESS THAN A MINUTE LATER...

WHAT'S :HUFF: GOING :PUFF: ON? I'M :HUFF: OUT OF :PUFF: BREATH! TIRED!



BUT I'M THE :HUFF: FASTEST THING ALIVE! I NEVER :PUFF: GET TIRED!

END OF CHAPTER 2

MEANIE IN A BOTTLE PART 3

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG
HAS JUST BEEN
EXAMINED BY
DOCTOR QUACK!

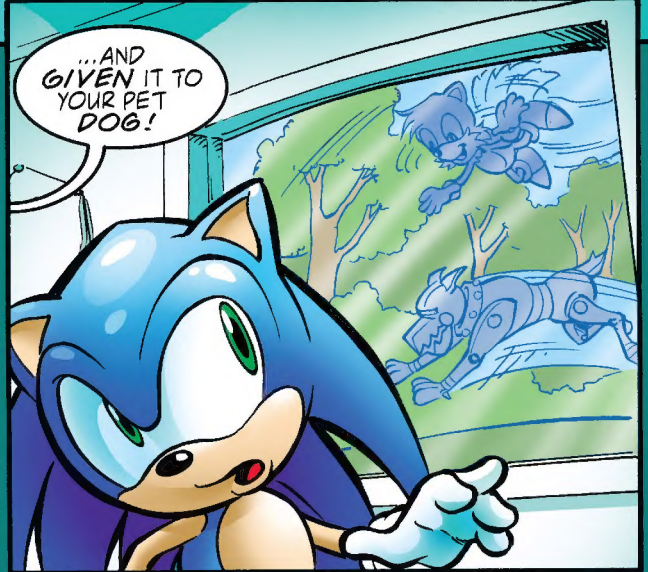
SORRY, KID
BUT I'M AFRAID
IT'S TRUE!

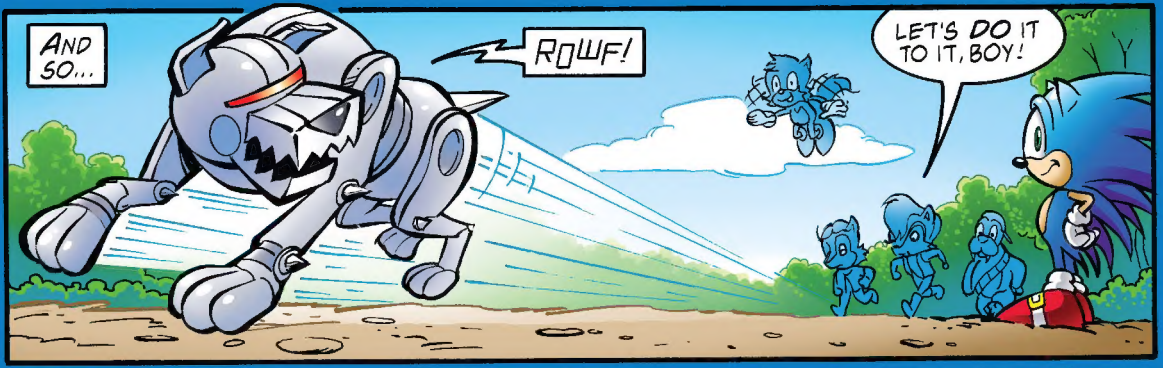


THAT GENIE YOU
FREED HAS STRIPPED YOU
OF YOUR SUPER-SPEED...



...AND
GIVEN IT TO
YOUR PET
DOG!





AND SO...

ROWF!

LET'S DO IT TO IT, BOY!



...OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS...

MY PURSE!

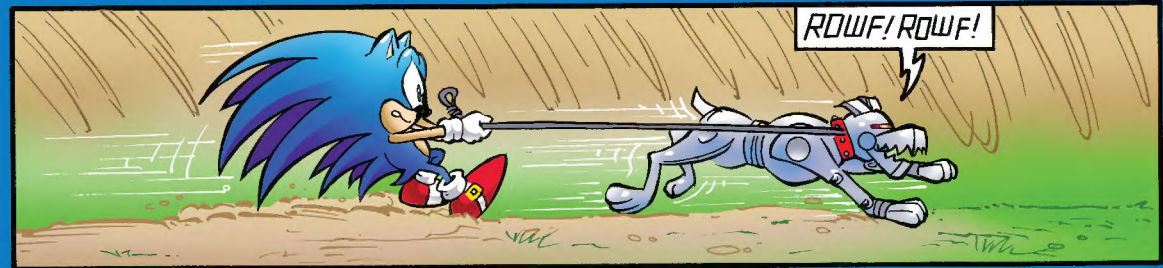
GRRRR!

OW!
OW!
OW!

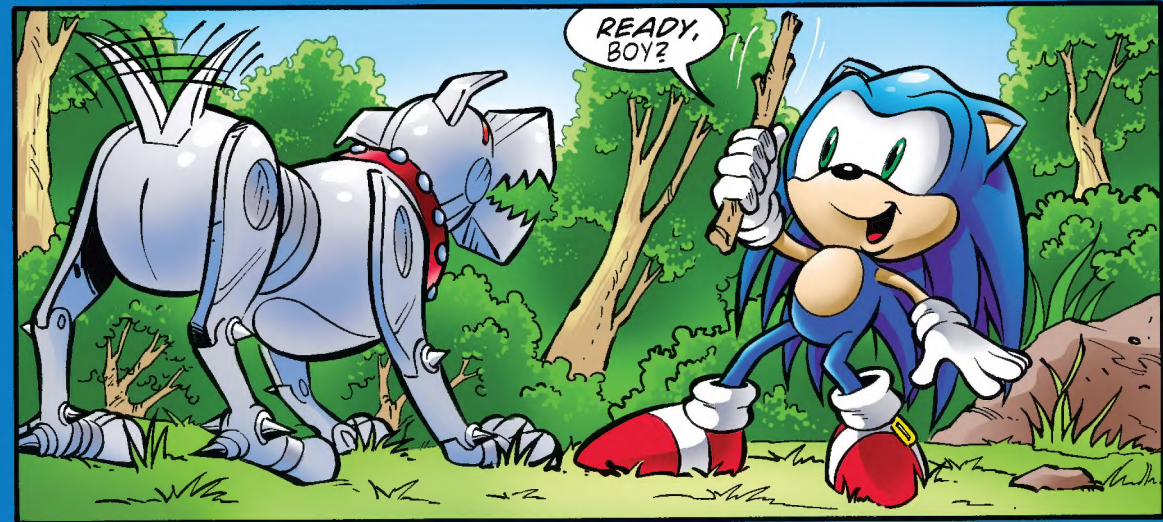


... MUTTSKI LENDS A MUCH NEEDED HAND, ER... I MEAN PAW!

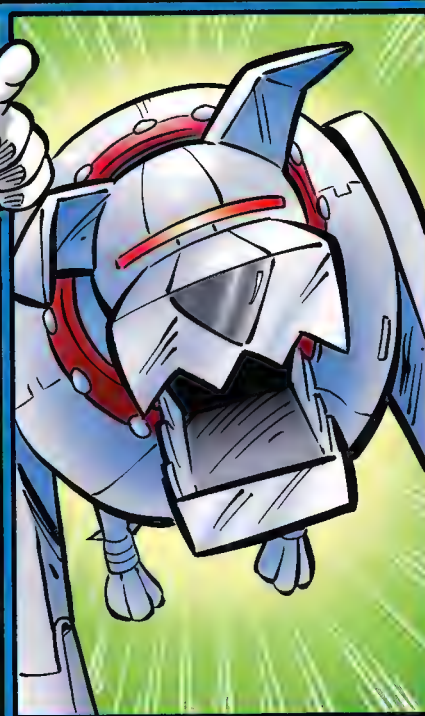
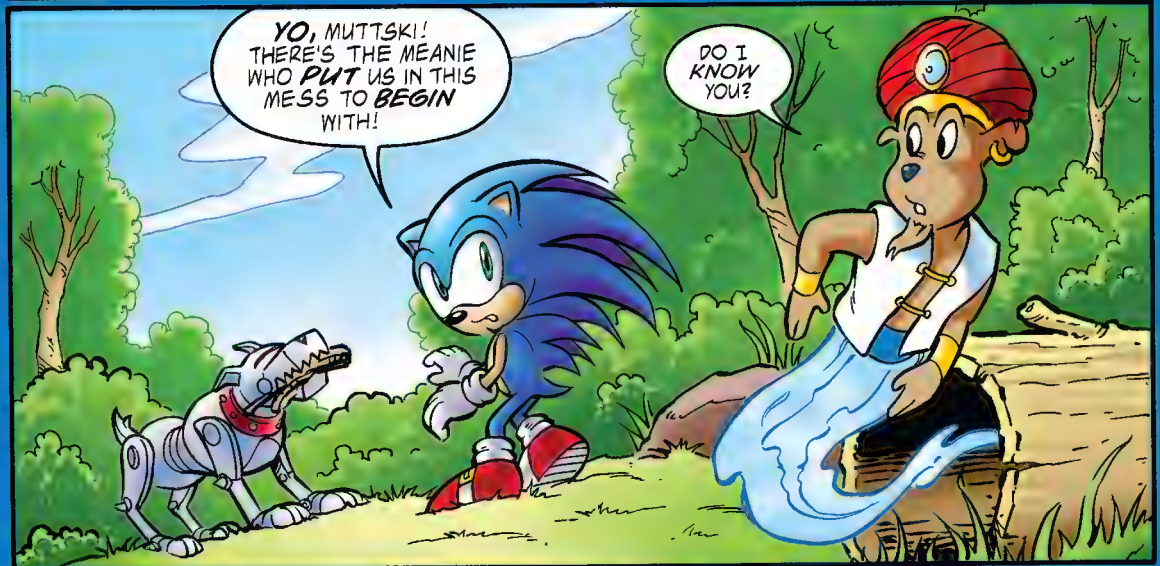
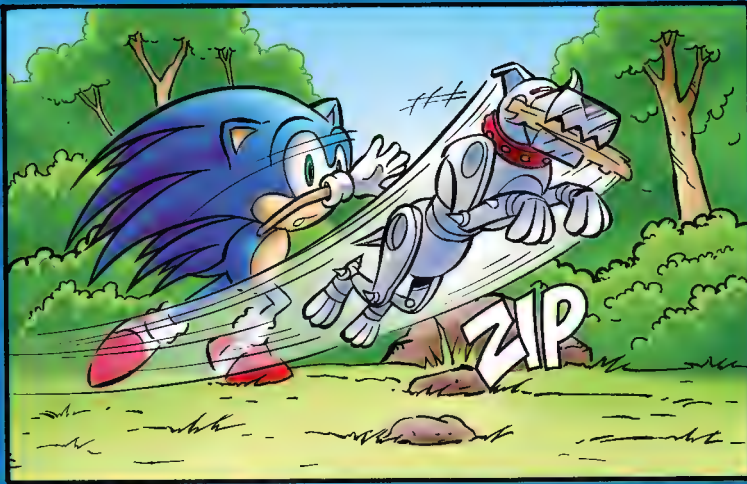
SEEDS




ROWF! ROWF!




READY, BOY?



MEANIE IN A BOTTLE CONCLUSION!

A large illustration of Sonic the Hedgehog and a robotic dog in a forest. Sonic is on the right, wearing his signature red and white shoes, with his hands on his hips and a confident smile. The robotic dog is on the left, sitting and looking towards Sonic. It has a red collar with a white bone-shaped ornament and a metallic body with some mechanical details. The background shows green trees and a grassy field.

NICE WORK, MUTTSKI! YOU'LL HOLD HIM AS WELL AS ANY BOTTLE!

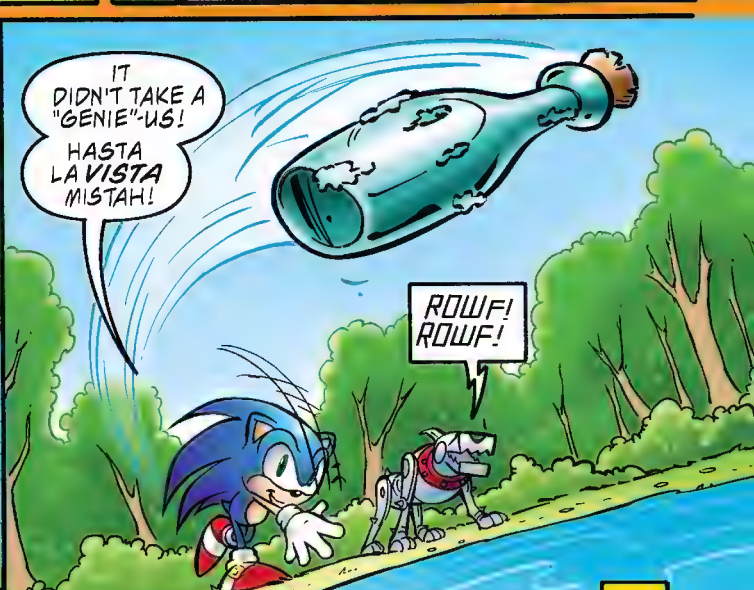
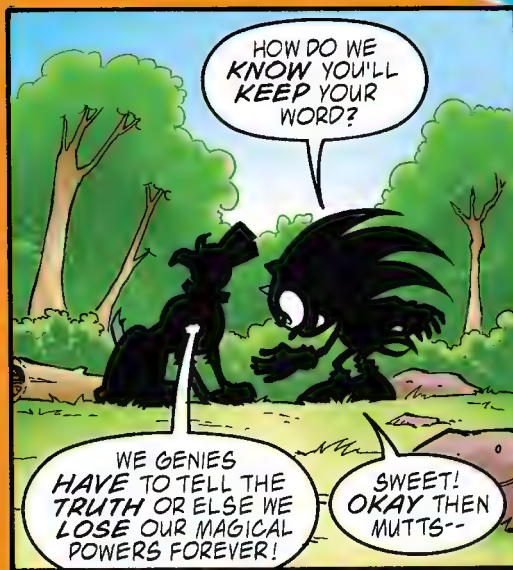
A smaller panel showing Muttiskin, a small brown dog-like character with a red headband and yellow wristbands, trapped inside a glass bottle. He has a desperate expression with wide eyes and an open mouth. The bottle is partially filled with blue liquid.

PLEASE! LET ME OUT! I'LL DO ANYTHING!

A smaller panel showing Sonic the Hedgehog looking into the bottle. He has a mischievous, smug expression. The robotic dog's head is visible in the background, looking towards the bottle.

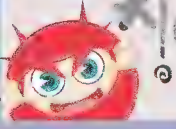
DEAL!

HOW ABOUT THREE WISHES?



THE END

the Spaz Sketchbook



Hey Sonic Fans, Spaz here. Justin asked me if I could share with you a little of what goes on behind the scenes here at Archie regarding Sonic design work. In the next couple of pages, I'll be showing you some of the character sketches, unused artwork and concept art that never made it to print. So, check it out and enjoy.

Thanks-Spaz

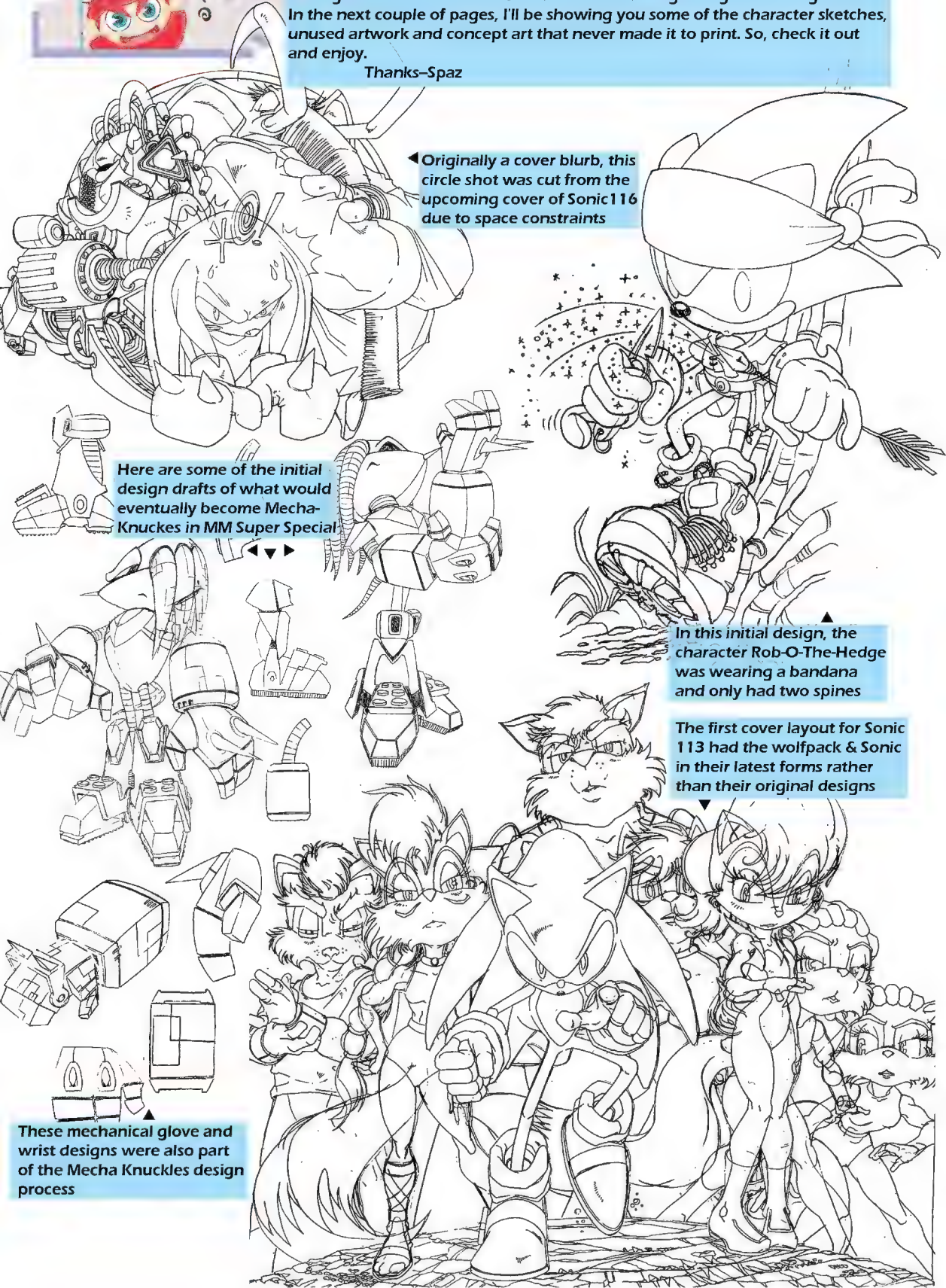
◀ Originally a cover blurb, this circle shot was cut from the upcoming cover of Sonic 116 due to space constraints

Here are some of the initial design drafts of what would eventually become Mecha-Knuckles in MM Super Special

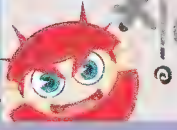
▲ In this initial design, the character Rob-O-The-Hedge was wearing a bandana and only had two spines

▲ The first cover layout for Sonic 113 had the wolfpack & Sonic in their latest forms rather than their original designs

▲ These mechanical glove and wrist designs were also part of the Mecha Knuckles design process



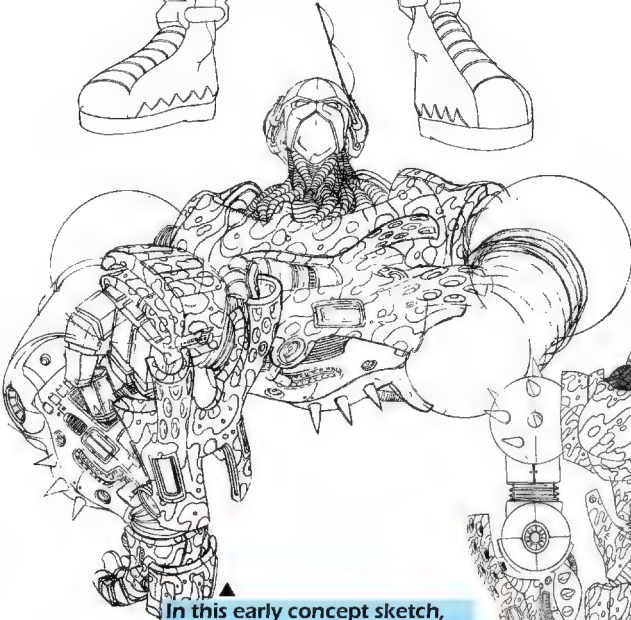
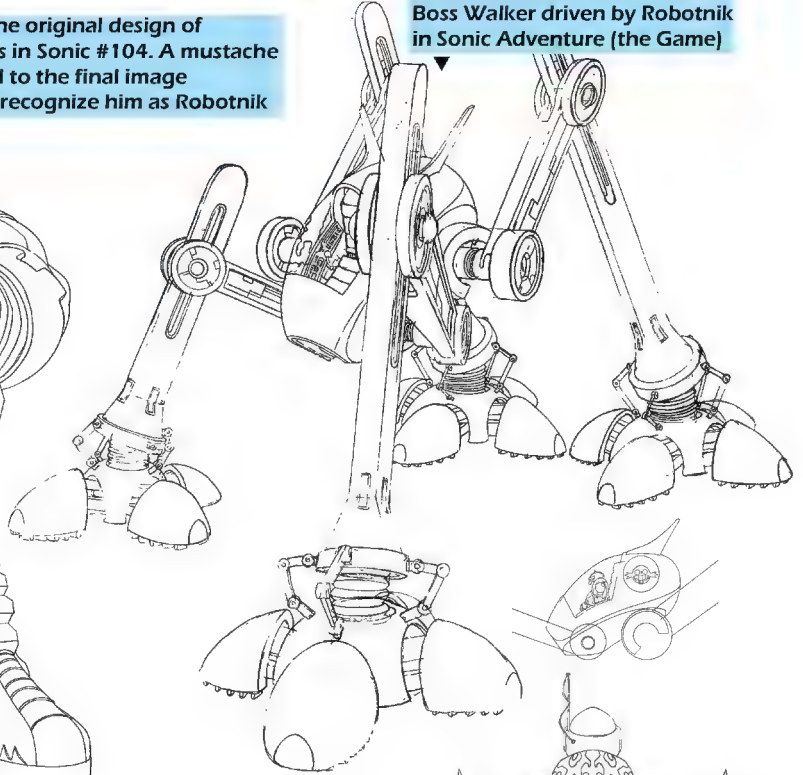
the Spaz Sketchbook



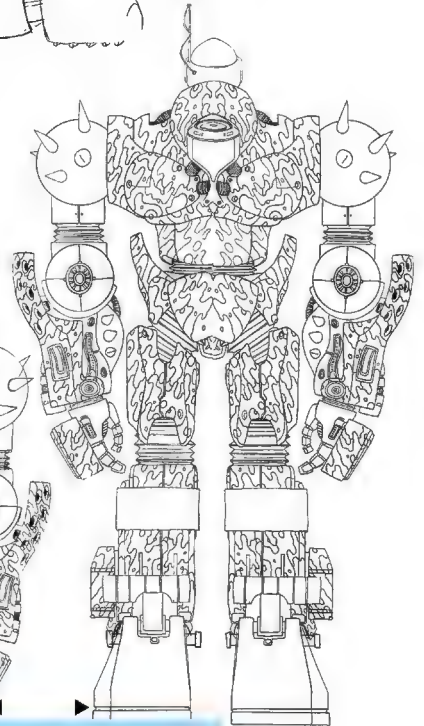
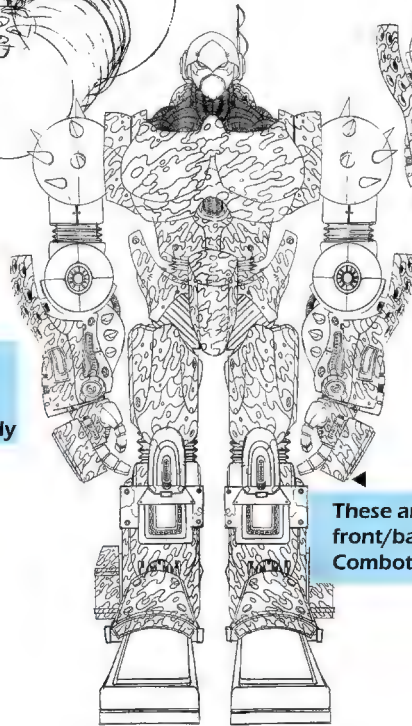
This was the original design of Robolactus in Sonic #104. A mustache was added to the final image so we can recognize him as Robotnik



The Egg Walker design was adapted from the 'Tails Senario' Boss Walker driven by Robotnik in Sonic Adventure (the Game)

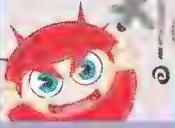


In this early concept sketch, the Combob, 'type two,' had a wrist-mounted cannon, that could be loaded manually

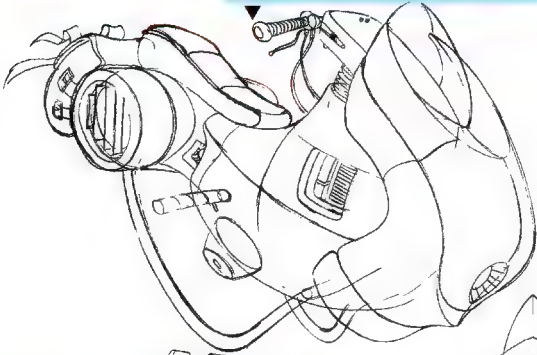


These are the finalized front/back shots of the Combob, 'type two'

the Spaz Sketchbook



Julie Su's Sky Cycle, originally only appearing on some covers for an interesting visual, was later written into the stories as one of her numerous Techno-Gadgets



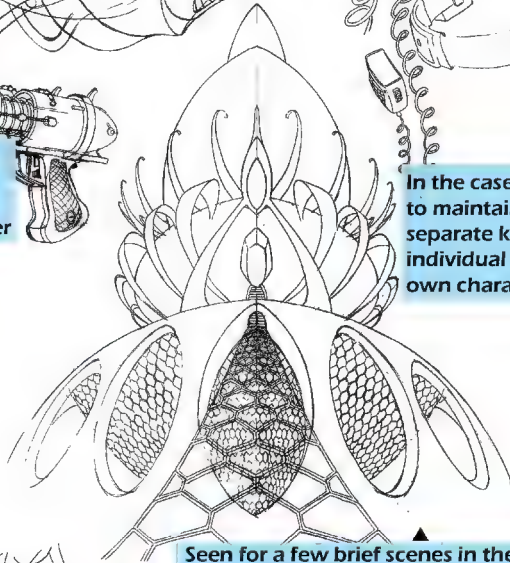
Julie Su's twin barrel handgun, originally slated as the weapon for her first appearance, was dropped in favor of a hand taser



In the case of the 'Echidna Security Team', to maintain a consistent uniform design, separate key elements are drawn, leaving the individual penciler freedom to create his/her own characters, while maintaining continuity

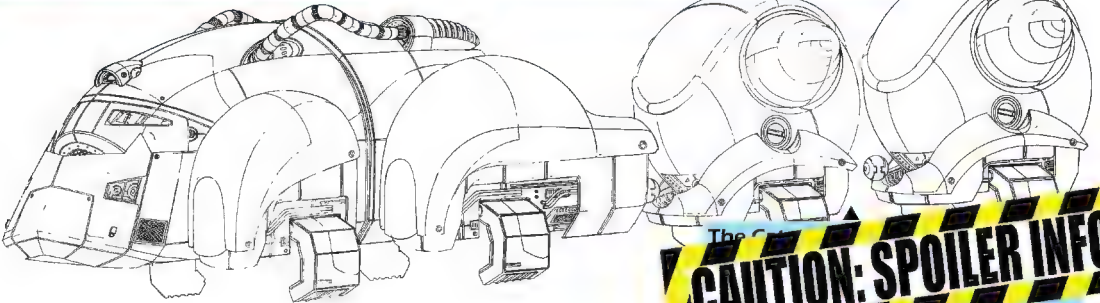
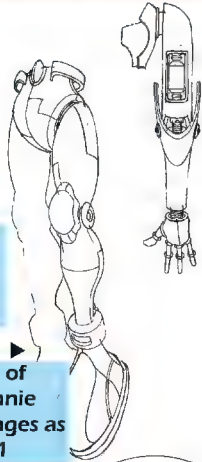


Some of Julie's equipment had to be updated for her appearance in SSS #11 including a heads-up display for her bike and holster for her gun



Seen for a few brief scenes in the Knuckles comic, Charmy Bee's home was centered around the idea of a beehive/medieval castle

Here are the finalized versions of what would eventually be Bunnie Rabbot's new robotic appendages as seen in Sonic Super Special #11

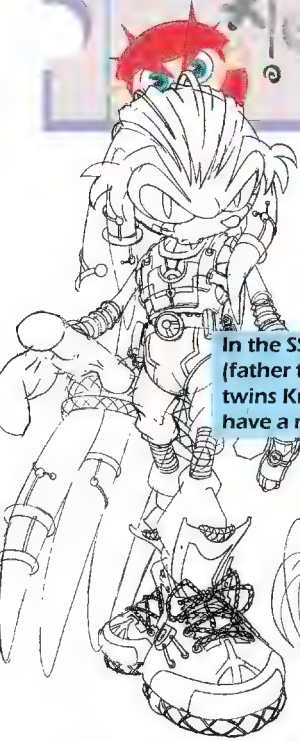


The C
CAUTION: SPOILER INFO
scale

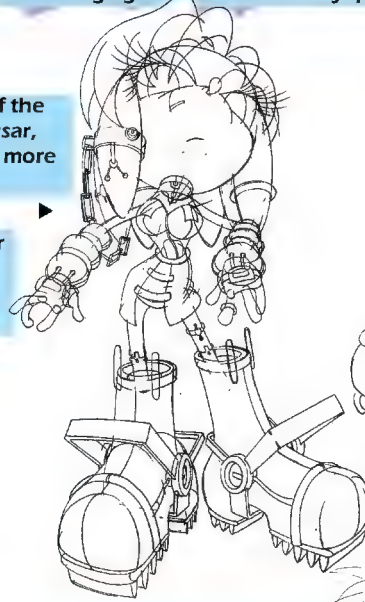


the Spaz Sketchbook

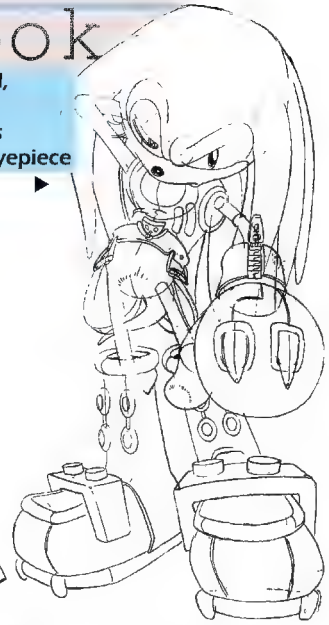
Originally slated for a future Special, and seen briefly in another book, Knuckles, Twenty years later, sports some strange gear and a metallic Eyepiece



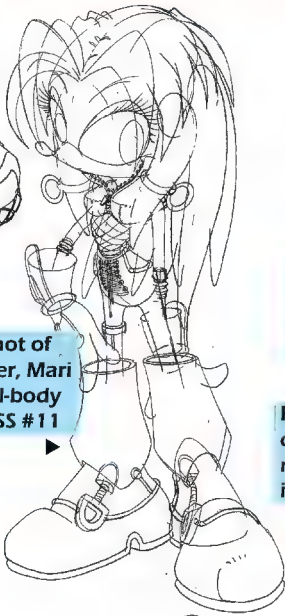
As the birth mother of the evil Kragok & Kommissar, Merin-Da was given a more 'Hard-Edged' design



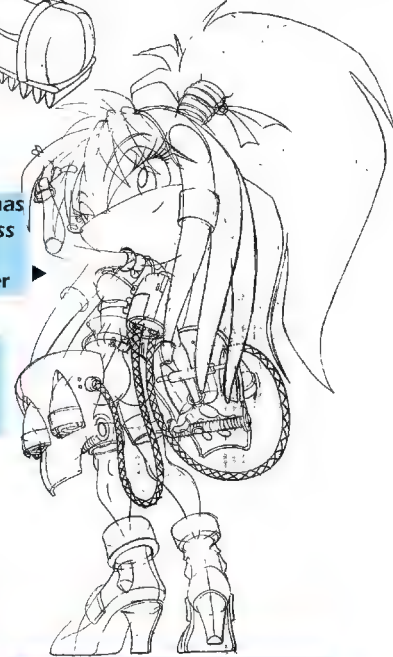
In the SSS#11 story 'Shadows', Luger (father to both Julie Su and the evil twins Kragok & Kommissar), had to have a menacing yet gentle look



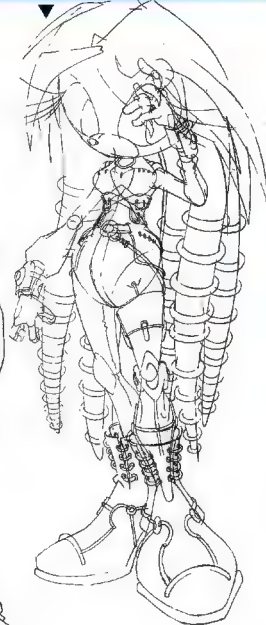
Shown here is a full shot of Julie Su's actual mother, Mari Su, rarely seen in a full-body shot outside of Sonic SS #11



Julie Su, Twenty Years later, has a slight hairstyle change, a less robotic group of dreads, and carries some serious firepower



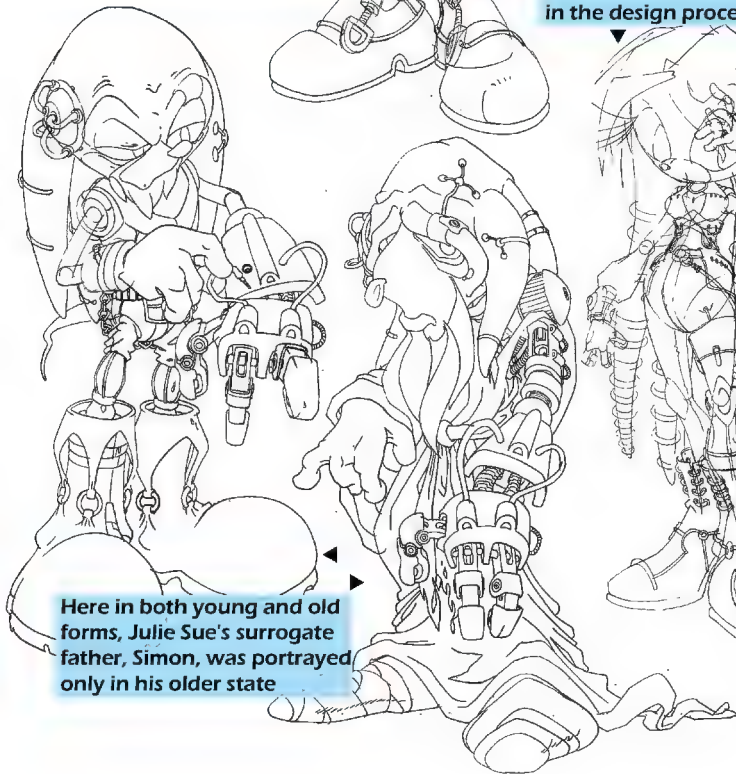
Floren-Ca started out as the design for Julie Su's birth mother, but was later switched in the design process



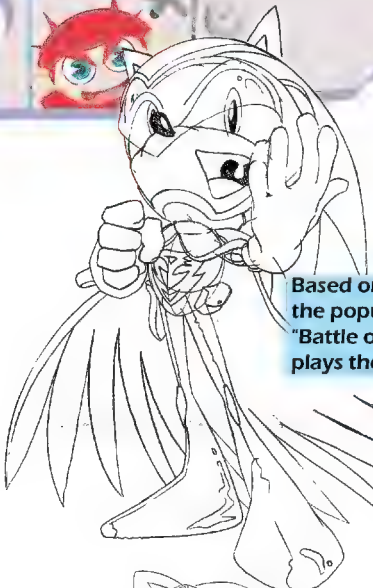
Here's a full body shot of the child versions of Kragok and his sister Lien-Da (Kommissar)



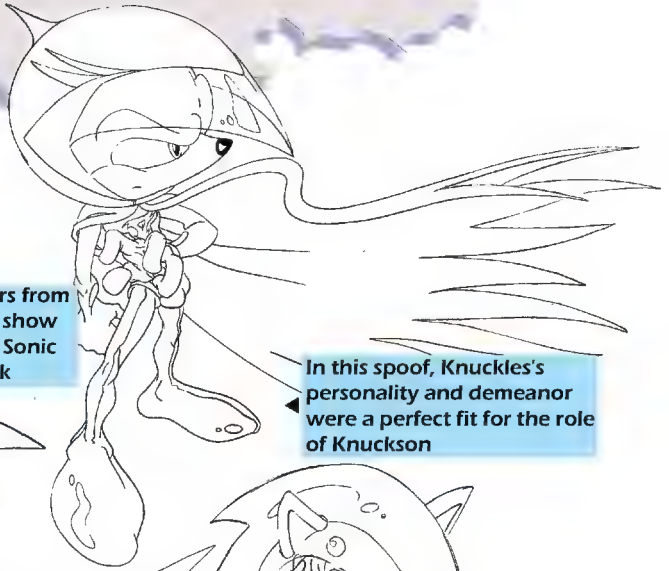
Here in both young and old forms, Julie Sue's surrogate father, Simon, was portrayed only in his older state



the Spaz Sketchbook



Based on the characters from the popular Anime TV show "Battle of the Planets", Sonic plays the role of Sonark



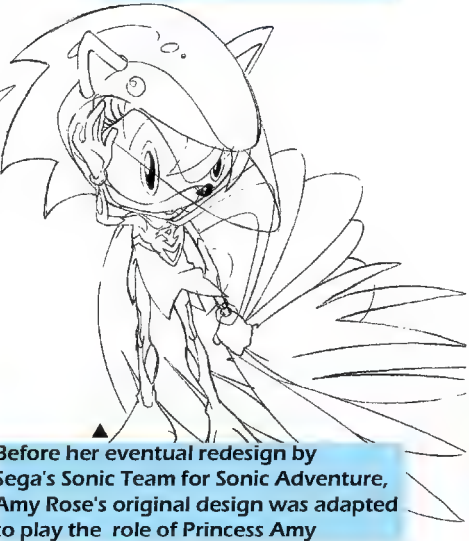
In this spoof, Knuckles's personality and demeanor were a perfect fit for the role of Knuckson



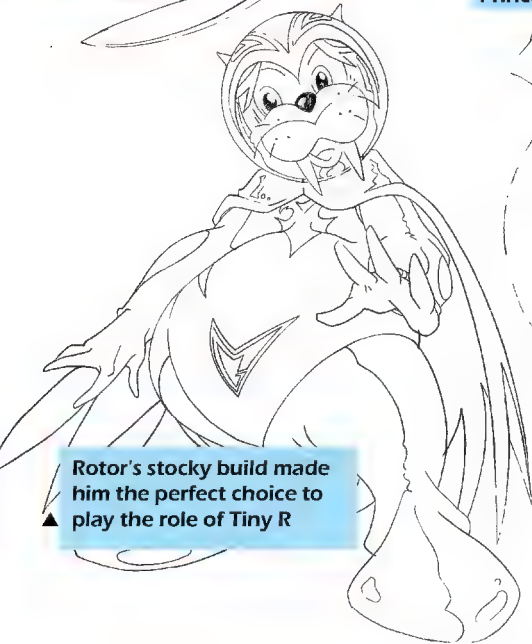
As Sonic's best bud, Tails fit in nicely as Tailsop



For a little bit of an ironic twist, Justin thought it would be interesting to redesign the normally sweet and valiant Princess Sally as the evil SALLTAR



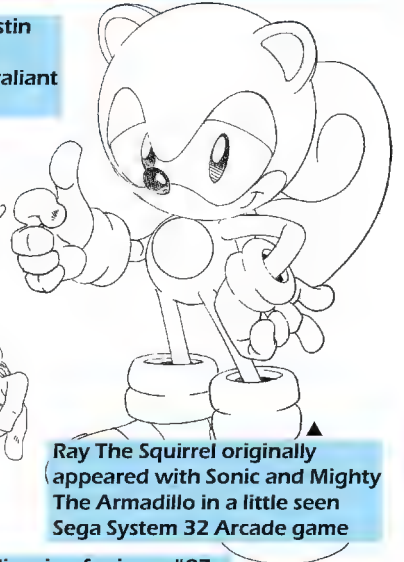
Before her eventual redesign by Sega's Sonic Team for Sonic Adventure, Amy Rose's original design was adapted to play the role of Princess Amy



Rotor's stocky build made him the perfect choice to play the role of Tiny R

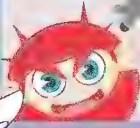


Sonic's disguise, for issue #97 was an amalgam of a ninja and the character 'Strider', from the 'Capcom arcade game'

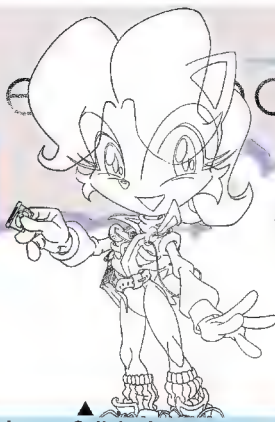


Ray The Squirrel originally appeared with Sonic and Mighty The Armadillo in a little seen Sega System 32 Arcade game


the Spaz Skeelook



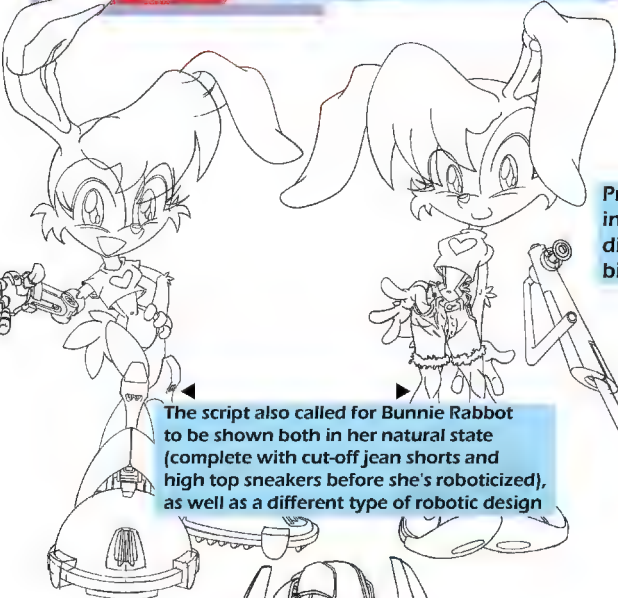
Originally slated to take place in an alternate timeline, a more "manga" influenced Sonic & the group were called for




Princess Sally's changes included a new outfit, a mini disk player, and even a hover bike not shown here



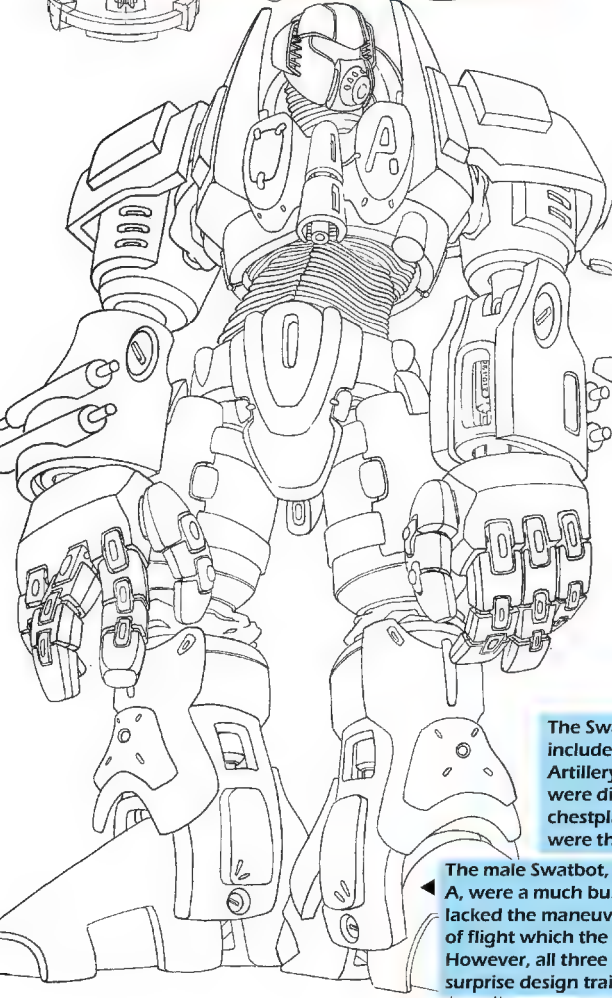
Not looking too different than his newer iterations as of late, when he was designed 'Manga' Sonic, besides being clothed, was quite a departure from the normal, more rounded shorter-spined Sonic



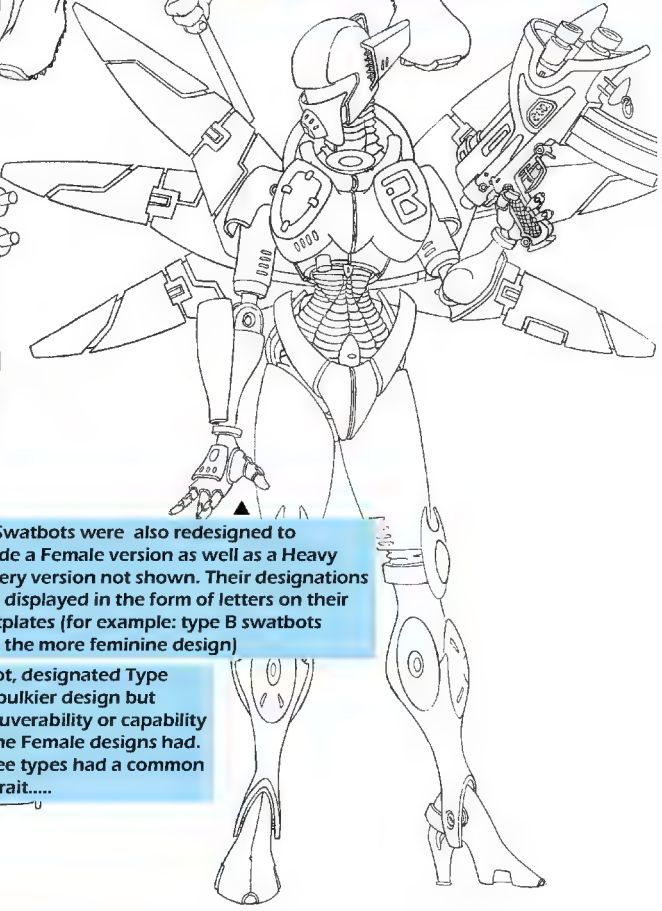
The script also called for Bunnie Rabbit to be shown both in her natural state (complete with cut-off jean shorts and high top sneakers before she's roboticized), as well as a different type of robotic design



Snively probably sported the most drastic redesign, becoming more wiry, having a long hair braid, and wearing a stealth suit

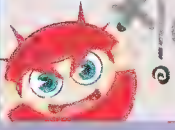


The Swatbots were also redesigned to include a Female version as well as a Heavy Artillery version not shown. Their designations were displayed in the form of letters on their chestplates (for example: type B swatbots were the more feminine design)



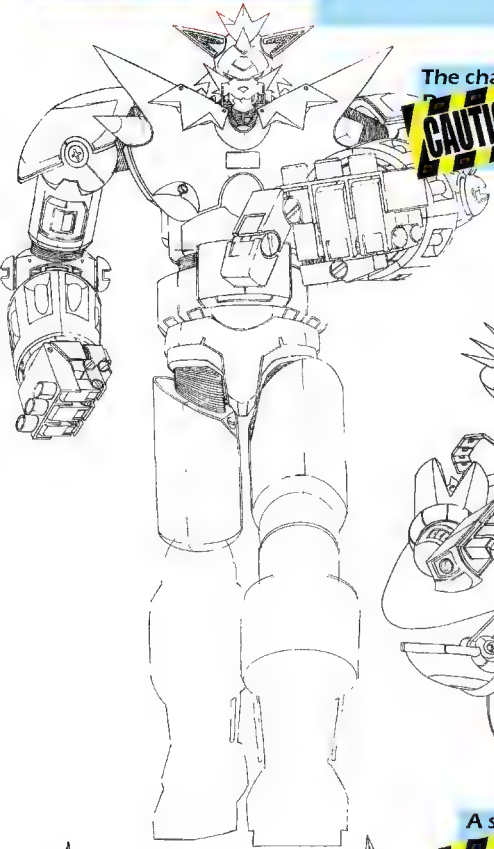
The male Swatbot, designated Type A, were a much bulkier design but lacked the maneuverability or capability of flight which the Female designs had. However, all three types had a common surprise design trait.....

the Spaz Sketchbook



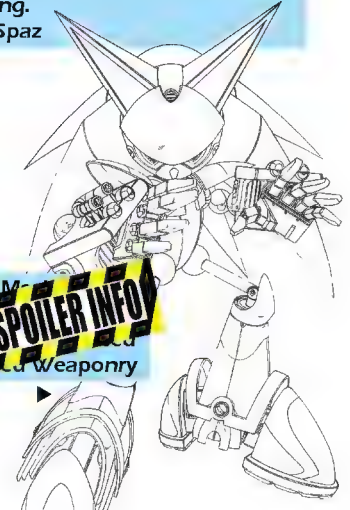
As a final bonus, we present to you some sneak preview characters that will be appearing in future issues of Sonic The Hedgehog comics. Because these are as yet unseen characters, we cannot reveal their identities here, but we can give you a little teaser. So check them out and enjoy. Maybe you can guess who a couple of them are. Thanks again for reading.

—Spaz



The character
is a
Sonic
in his
mechanized form

CAUTION: SPOILER INFO



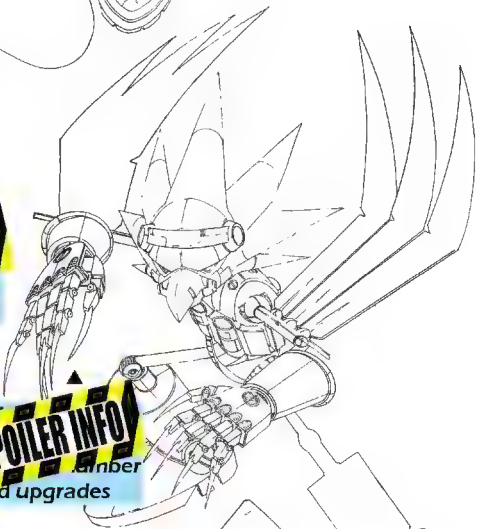
As the next M
for
Weaponry

CAUTION: SPOILER INFO



A strange
ability
enhancements

CAUTION: SPOILER INFO



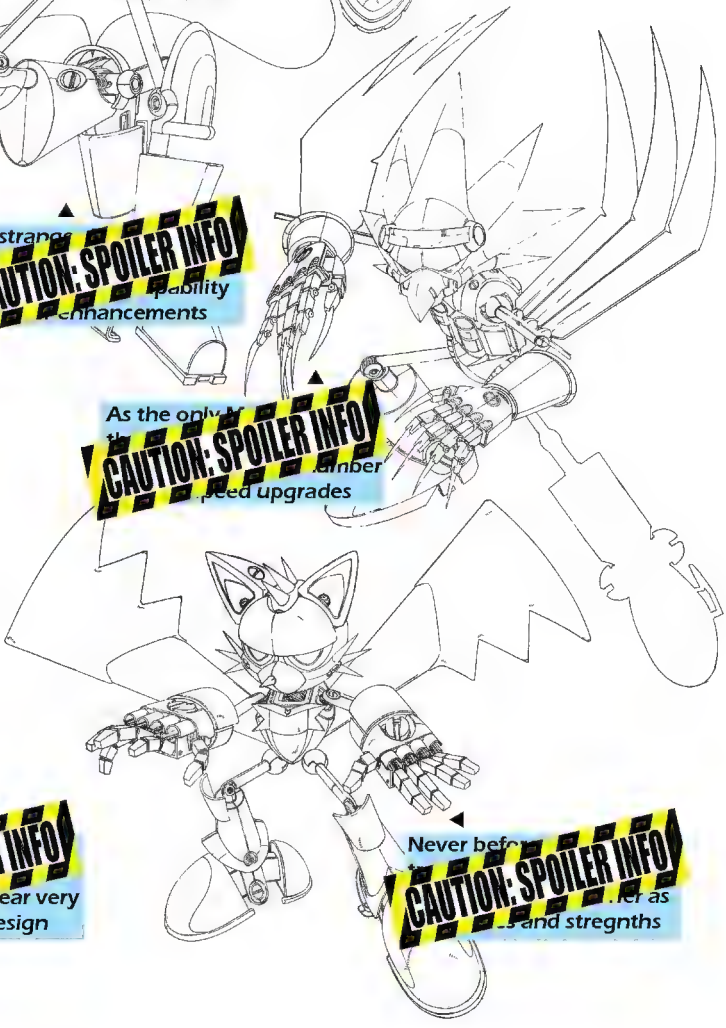
As the only M
the
speed upgrades

CAUTION: SPOILER INFO



Being the
appear very
to Sonic in Design

CAUTION: SPOILER INFO



Never before
as
and strengths

CAUTION: SPOILER INFO

KNUCKLES

THE ECHIDNA

HAS JUST FOUND OUT THAT **DIMITRI**, HIS FORMER FOE AND STILL LEADER OF THE **DARK LEGION**, IS DYING.

WATCHING HER DEPARTURE IS ONE VERY INTERESTED OBSERVER AND ONE RELUCTANT CABBIE...

DIMITRI'S SECOND-IN-COMMAND, HIS GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER **LIEN-DA**, WAS VISITING WITH HIM AT THE HOSPITAL WHEN SHE RECEIVED WORD TO RETURN BACK TO THE MOTHER SHIP.

I THOUGHT THE DARK LEGION WERE *UNWELCOME* ON THE ISLAND!

GET WITH THE PROGRAM, MAC!

THAT WAS *YESTERDAY!*

?

ULTIMATE POWER

PART TWO

ONCE AGAIN OUR INTREPID TEAM --

KEN PENDERS
SCRIPT, LAYOUTS & INKS

DAWN BEST
PENCILS

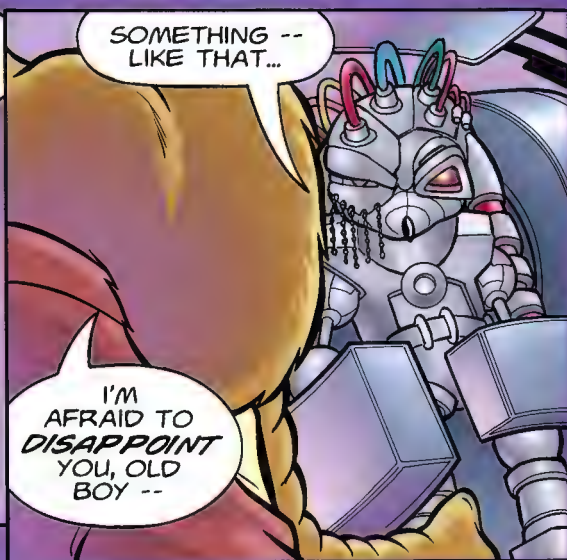
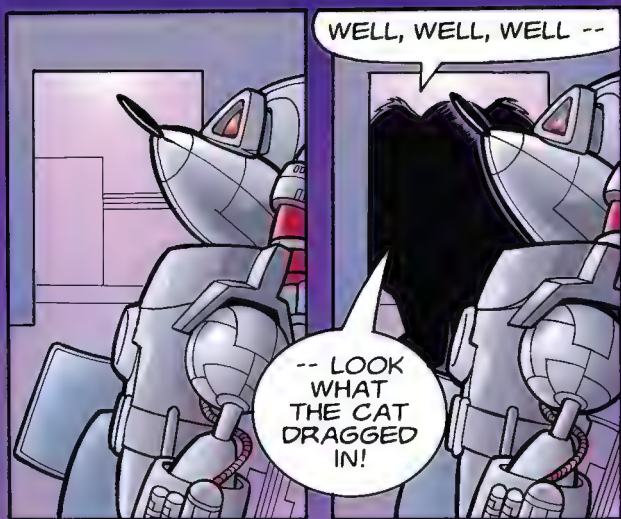
VICKIE WILLIAMS
LETTERER

JENSEN
COLORIST

JUSTIN GABRIE
EDITOR

-- EMBARKS ON A NEW ADVENTURE FEATURING EVERYONE'S FAVORITE ECHIDNA!





* - AS CHRONICLED IN THE NOW-CLASSIC *KNUCKLES* #9 - JUSTIN.



"PERHAPS, BUT NOT UNTIL YOU'VE ASSISTED ME IN REACQUIRING THE POWER FROM ANOTHER SOURCE..."

LOOK AT THIS MOVE!

VECTOR IS DEFINITELY IN THE GROOVE!

VECTOR IS DEFINITELY SOMETHING!

WE'RE JUST NOT SURE WHAT!

SPEAKING OF SOMETHING, KNUX --

SHORT AND SIMPLE, I CHANGED COLORS WHEN I GAINED THE POWERS OF THE CHAOS EMERALD!

SWEETEEET!!

HOW'D THAT HAPPEN?

-- THAT'S SURE SOME SHADE OF GREEN YOU'RE SPORTING!

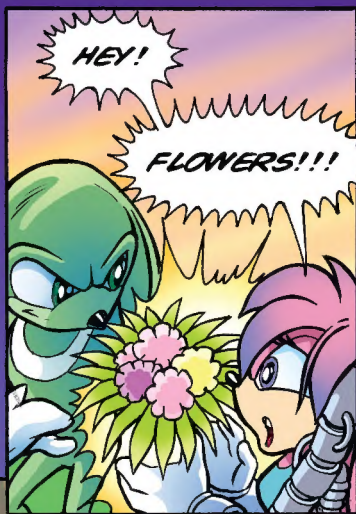
SO WHAT'S IT MEAN?

YOU CAN MOONWALK BETTER THAN VEC?

GOOD QUESTION!

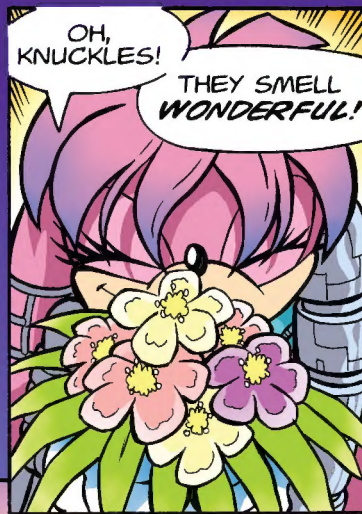
THINGS GET STRANGE WHEN I GET MAD!

WHAT ABOUT WHEN YOU'RE NOT?



HEY!

FLOWERS!!!



OH, KNUCKLES!

THEY SMELL WONDERFUL!



CAN YOU DO IT AGAIN?

I'M NOT SURE I WANNA TRY, MIGHTY!



YOU'RE WAAAAAY TOO UPTIGHT, M'MAN!

YOU OUGHTTA LET LOOSE AND PAR-TAY!

FIRST THINGS FIRST, VECTOR!



I GOTTA SEE MY DAD AND FIGURE THIS OUT!



YOU GUYS COMING OR WHAT?

ELSEWHERE IN ECHIDNAOPOLIS, UNSEEN FROM PRYING EYES...

WE'VE JUST ABOUT FINISHED INSTALLING THE COM-CONSOLES.

ONCE THE FINAL CONNECTIONS ARE MADE, WE CAN BEGIN SIMULATIONS!

EXCELLENT!

KOMMISSAR WILL BE PLEASED WITH OUR PROGRESS!

SPEAKING OF WHICH --

HAVE YOU ANY NEWS OF GREAT DIMITRI, KOMMISSAR?

NOTHING FAVORABLE AT THE MOMENT, GAE-NA --

-- BUT THERE IS STILL HOPE!

IN THE MEANTIME --

-- THE HIGH COUNCIL HAS NOT YET VOTED THEIR APPROVAL OF REUNIFICATION --

HERE'S A REPORT ON OUR CURRENT STATUS!

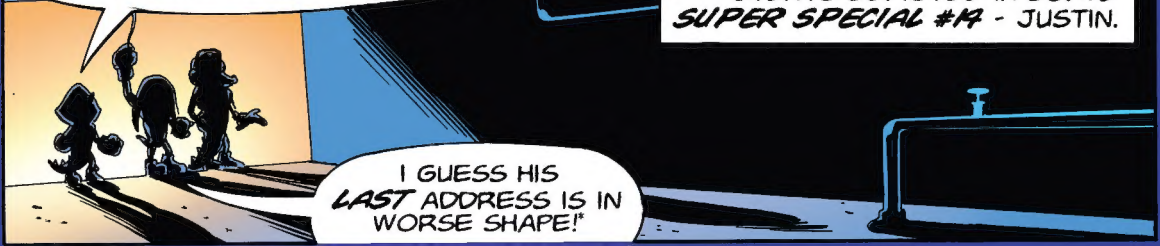
AND WHAT ABOUT KNUCKLES?

-- FORCING US TO CONTINUE WITH OUR BACK-UP PLAN JUST IN CASE.

WHEREABOUTS IS OUR -- ALLY?

WHATEVER
WOULD YOUR FATHER BE DOING
IN *THIS DUMP*?!?

* - AND SO IT IS, DUE TO
EVENTS DEPICTED IN *SONIC
SUPER SPECIAL #14* - JUSTIN.

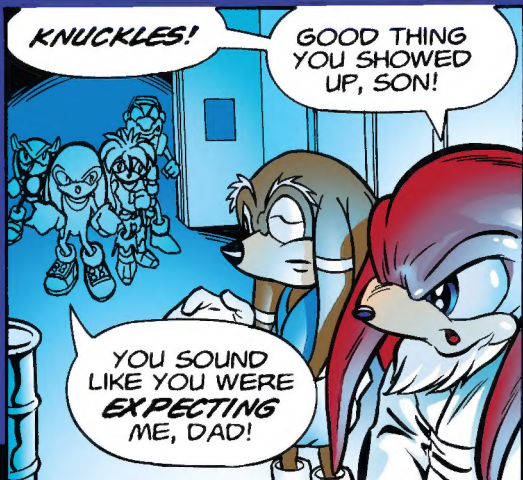
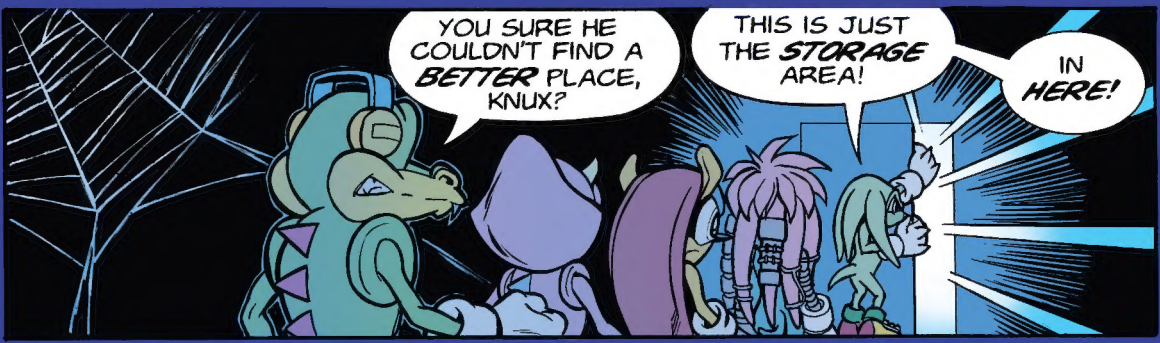


I GUESS HIS
LAST ADDRESS IS IN
WORSE SHAPE!

YOU SURE HE
COULDN'T FIND A
BETTER PLACE,
KNUX?

THIS IS JUST
THE *STORAGE*
AREA!

IN
HERE!



KNUCKLES!

GOOD THING
YOU SHOWED
UP, SON!

YOU SOUND
LIKE YOU WERE
EXPECTING
ME, DAD!

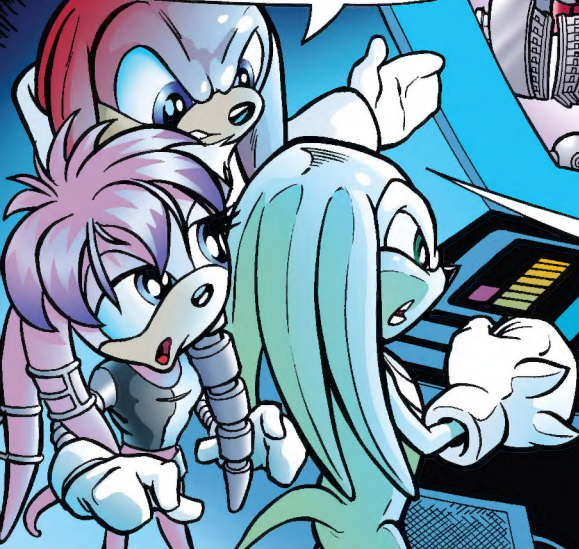
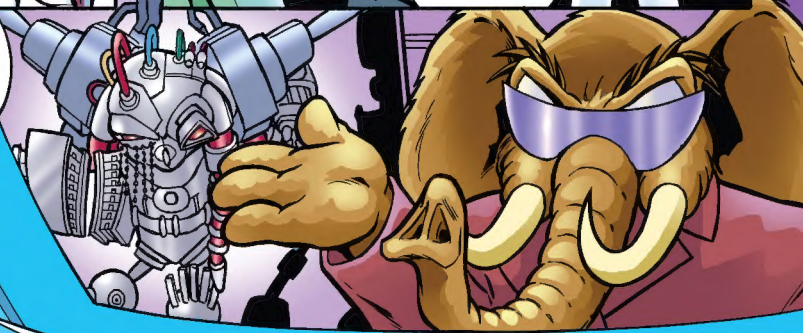


IF YOU HADN'T
COME, WE'D HAVE GONE
LOOKING FOR YOU!

WHY?

WHAT'S
GOING
DOWN?

WE'VE JUST RECEIVED
A *TRANSMISSION* FROM
SOMEONE WHO CALLS HIM-
SELF *MAMMOTH MUGUL!*



HE'S
CAPTURED
DIMITRI --

SEGA

-- AND NOW
HE *WANTS*
YOU!